

# Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

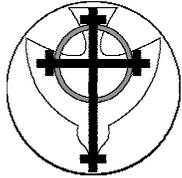
Email: contact@peacealma.org

Office Hours Tues 10-2, Thurs 11:30-12:30, Fri 10-2

**Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor**

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037

Email: pastor@peacealma.org



## Eighth Sunday after Trinity

29 July Anno ✠ Domini 2012

### Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts. Please take the time to fill out the **Record of Fellowship form** that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

### A Note About Today's Service

Holy Communion will not be celebrated during our Service this morning due to Pastor Messer's absence. Elders Gabriel Blair and Terry Luplow will lead us in the Service of Prayer and Preaching. The sermon you will hear was written by Pastor Messer. We pray God's blessings upon Elders Blair and Luplow as they lead God's people during Service this morning.

### Our Mission Statement

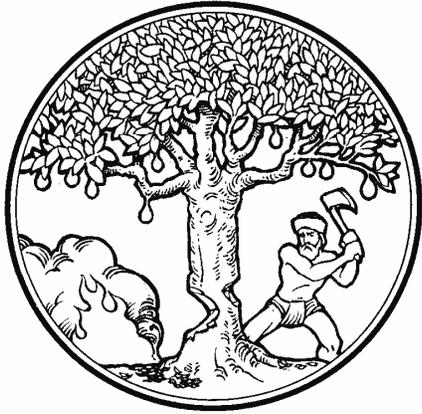
The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.



*“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.” (Matt. 7:15)*

# Eighth Sunday after Trinity

29 July Anno † Domini 2012



## SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING, PAGE 260

*(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)*

### Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

The Opening Hymn: 578 “Thy Strong Word”

### Opening Versicles - Common (p. 260)

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** Teach me Your paths.
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** Your Word is truth.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Old Testament Cantic (pp. 261-262)

*Sit*

### Collect of the Day

- L** Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Collect for the Word

- L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Morning Prayer

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### New Testament Cantic (pp. 266-267)

### Blessing (p. 267)

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.

The Closing Hymn: 680 “Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

### The Postlude

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

## Sermon

*(The sermon was written by Pastor Messer; it is read by Elder Terry Luplow)*

**Hymn:** 745 “In God, My Faithful God”

**The Offering** is gathered for the Lord’s work.

*(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)*

*Stand*

**Prayer** (pp. 265-266)

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Readings from Holy Scripture (p. 263)

### The Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 23:16-29*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD . . . <sup>17</sup>They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD , ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

<sup>18</sup>For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? <sup>19</sup>Behold, the storm of the LORD ! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. <sup>20</sup>The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

<sup>21</sup>“I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. <sup>22</sup>But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

<sup>23</sup>“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD , and not a God afar off? <sup>24</sup>Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD . Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD . <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ <sup>26</sup>How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, <sup>27</sup>who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD . <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD , and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

### The Gradual

*Ps. 31:2b, 1a*

Be a rock of refuge for me,

a strong fortress to save me!

**In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;**

**let me never be put to shame.**

### The Second Reading

*Acts 20:27-38*

<sup>27</sup>[Paul said:] For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. <sup>28</sup>Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. <sup>29</sup>I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup>and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. <sup>32</sup>And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup>I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup>You yourselves know that the-

se hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup>In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

<sup>36</sup>And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. <sup>37</sup>And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, <sup>38</sup>being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

**Hymn:** 588 “Jesus Loves Me! This I know”

*Stand*

### The Holy Gospel

*Matthew 7:15-23*

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 7th chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup>You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup>So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup>A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup>Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

<sup>21</sup>“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup>On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ <sup>23</sup>And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**Hymn:** 577 “Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”

### Responsory - Common (p. 263)

**L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

*Stand*

## Catechism (p. 264)

### Ten Commandments

**C** **You shall have no other gods.**

**You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**

**Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**

**Honor your father and your mother.**

**You shall not murder.**

**You shall not commit adultery.**

**You shall not steal.**

**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

### Apostles’ Creed

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.**

### Lord’s Prayer

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*Sit*